

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02

AID-05 ACDA-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 /079 W

----- 122022

O R 211000Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2935

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CARMISH MAAG TEHRAN

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

SAN ANTONIO ALC KELLY AFB TEX

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 4090

AF/E PLEASE ADVISE AMBASSADOR MARSHALL

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US

SUBJECT: KENYAN LETTERS OF INTENT REQUESTING F-5 AIRCRAFT AND
RELATED TRAINING

REF: A. STATE 099516 B. NAIROBI 3549

1. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED TWO LETTERS OF INTENT FROM KENYA
DEFENCE MINISTRY REQUESTING USG TO SUBMIT LETTERS OF OFFER
AND ACCEPTANCE RE EXCESS F-5 AIRCRAFT AND RELATED TRAINING.
COPIES OF LETTERS WILL BE AIR POUCHED TO AF/E DIRECTOR COOTE
MAY 23. FULL TEXT RE AIRCRAFT REQUEST SET FORTH PARAS 2 AND 3
BELOW. LETTER OUTLINING TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SUMMARIZED IN
PARAS 4 AND 5.

2. BEGIN LETTER REQUESTING AIRCRAFT. QQGTE. WITH REFERENCE
TO YOUR NOTE OF 30TH APRIL, 1975, I NOW WISH TO FORMALLY INFORM
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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THE MINISTRY OF

DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA WISHES TO ACQUIRE THE F5 AIRCRAFT AS DISCUSSED DURING THE LAST VISIT OF THE U.S. MILITARY TEAM AND OURSELVES. DURING THE DISCUSSION THE TEAM MENTIONED 15 AIRCRAFT OF F5A TYPE BUT KENYA AIR FORCE WOULD LIKE IF POSSIBLE TO HAVE THE 15 ALREADY MENTIONED AND 3 ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT OF F5B TWO SEAT TRAINERS, MAKING A TOTAL OF 18 AIRCRAFT.

3. QUOTE. I SHALL BE VERY GRATEFUL IF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD LET US HAVE A LETTER OF OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE IN RESPECT OF THE AIRCRAFT. WITH REGARD TO THE DELIVERY DATES IT HAS BEEN ASSUMED THAT THE PILOTS AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL WITH PREVIOUS JET EXPERIENCE SHOULD BE CONVERTED TO F5 AIRCRAFT IN BETWEEN 3 TO 4 MONTHS IF NOT LESS. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT PERSONNEL WITH PISTON AIRCRAFT EXPERIENCE SHOULD BE CONVERTED WITHIN 4 TO 5 MONTHS. ASSUMING THAT THIS PERSONNEL COULD START THEIR COURSE IN JULY, THE DELIVERY OF THE BATCH OF AIRCRAFT (3 X F5B AND 6 X F5A) SHOULD BE IN OCTOBER 1975. THE NEXT BATCH OF 9 AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO COINCIDE WITH THE RETURN OF THE NEXT GROUP OF PILOTS WHICH WOULD BE AROUND NOVEMBER 1975. IF, HOWEVER, THE COURSES TAKE SHORTER OR LONGER THAN EXPECTED, THEN THE DELIVERY DATES SHOULD BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY. UNQUOTE. END LETTER REQUESTING AIRCRAFT.

4. BEGIN SUMMARY OF LETTER REQUESTING TRAINING. KENYAN DEFENCE MINISTRY REQUESTS TRAINING TO QUALIFY TOTAL OF 60 PILOTS TO OPERATE F-5 AIRCRAFT. OF THIS NUMBER SIX ARE ALREADY JET QUALIFIED, NINE PISTON QUALIFIED, EIGHT NEW GRADUATES OF FTS, AND REMAINING 37 WOULD BE NEW RECRUITS REQUIRING BASIC TRAINING. ALL PILOTS SHOULD BE TRAINED IN ALL TYPES OF MISSIONS (AIR TO GROUND, AIR TO AIR, AND ALL-WEATHER INTERCEPTION). IN ADDITION, MINISTRY REQUESTS TRAINING RELATED TO F-5 PROGRAM FOR TOTAL OF 285 TECHNICIANS. OF THIS TOTAL 14 ARE ALREADY JET QUALIFIED, 13 PISTON QUALIFIED, 68 DIRECT FROM TECHNICAL SCHOOL, AND REMAINING 190 WOULD BE NEW RECRUITS. BREAKDOWN OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL BY RANK, NAME, SPECIALTY AND EXPERIENCE SET FORTH IN ANNEX B TO LETTERS.

5. MINISTRY LETTER ALSO REQUESTS THAT USG PROVIDE TWO FLYING INSTRUCTORS FOR LOCAL CONTINUATION TRAINING AS WELL AS MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL INSTRUCTORS. LETTER DOES NOT SPECIFY HOW MANY
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OF LATTER CATEGORY WILL BE REQUIRED, BUT SUGGESTS AT LEAST ONE INSTRUCTOR TO COVER EACH OF SEVEN TECHNICAL FIELDS OF AIRFRAME, ENGINES, INSTRUMENTS, ELECTRICAL, RADIO, RADAR, AND ARMAMENT. ASIDE FROM INSTRUCTORS KENYA AIR FORCE WILL NEED ASSISTANCE OF MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL IN THESE SEVEN CATEGORIES AND SUGGESTS THREE IN EACH FOR TOTAL OF 21 MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL. END SUMMARY OF LETTER REQUESTING TRAINING.

6. COMMENT: WHILE KENYAN REQUEST FOR F-5 AIRCRAFT SOMEWHAT EXCEEDS NUMBER OF EXCESS AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE, I WOULD HOPE WE COULD BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE. CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK WHICH HAS GONE INTO LETTERS OF INTENT AND ENCLOSURES INDICATES KENYAN DECISION TO MAKE F-5 SQUADRON MOST IMPORTANT WEAPON SYSTEM IN KENYA AIR FORCE. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM MOD AND PROVIDE INITIAL ORAL REACTION TO KENYAN LETTERS PRIOR TO USG SUBMISSION OF LETTERS OF OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 21 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: X1
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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